6/23/75

Dear Harold,

It was great to see you down at Maryland.

Things have cooled somewhat with my dad, although it was a heavy week we spent together, and neither of my parents is yet willing to accept the fact that I could be what I am--or be content to remain that way. We've talked, and naturally, there has been no final resolution. In what is rapidly becoming a true gothic romance, I returned to Gainesville after that traumatic week only to learn that my lover had been wisked 300 miles away to care for his sick mother. He had been living with her up here for the entire 8 months of our relationship, and her presence was definitely a wrench in the works. She had planned to move back to Southern Fla when he graduated, which took place while I was in Phila. But as soon as they moved, on the eve of his return to meet me and live with me here, a tumor was discovered in his mother's ear, and there will be surgery this week. When he can return now is uncertain. This is but the outline of a bitterly ironic story of many dimensions. But it is on this note that I begin summer session. With it all, I am doing well and am not depressed.

On the brighter side, I did very well last quarter--2 A's and a B. Also, I just got a request from Hoch, Scott and Steiler to reprint a chapter from my book in their upcoming anthology. They indicated they already had permission from you to reprint some of your work. Do you know any details about the book? Is it a sure thing or just speculative at this point? They indicated Vintage was virtually certain to do it.

Please read the enclosed memo on Lovelady & Altgens closely. I'm now sure the man in Altgens is Lovelady, and I'd hate to see a lot of fuss made over that again, because it will be another sstraw man.

This new matter with the mark on the curbstone bothers me, because I'm not convinced from the ~~MP~~ photos that it was a chip and not a surface mark. I don't know if you recall it or not, but Tink printed a clearer picture by Dillard which, of all I've seen, comes closer to showing a chip in the concrete. Check p. 231 of Six Seconds. Also, have you ever examined the actual stone in the Archives? I don't see why it would matter that much to them if the curb were ~~XXXXXX~~ chipped or scraped, as long as they have to confront the fact that it was struck. I think I recall you saying that Tague was hit by spraying concrete. Do we really know that? Couldn't it have been rickocheting bullet fragments from the curb hit?

I've enclosed a copy of some local Weberman insanity, as you requested.

I hope you and Lil are well.

Best,

Howard

-am also getting you a copy of your missing Lovelady-CBS picture which I once copied.